SCOPE: AVILA COLLEGE

Vol 8, No. 1—November, 1965

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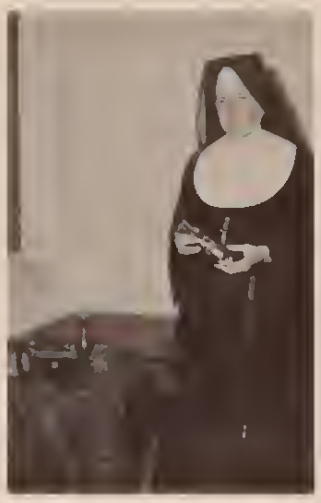

Sister Mary Avila examines items which she brought from India. Interested in the fabrics, the brass work, and wood carvings which she found in India, Sister found samples of the Indian work as souvenirs of her summer Fulbright study grant.

Sister Mary Avila discusses a Russian history lesson with Margaret Donahue, above left, resident student from Linn, Mo., and Julie Dold, right, from Prairie Village, Kans.

Elements of Superior Education Combine in Study of History

While the entire curriculum of the college contributes to the total education of the students, some fields of study offer special learning opportunities. History is one of these, Sister Mary Avila, professor of history at Avila College, emphasizes.

"History is necessary for understanding the world today," Sister states. "A woman in today's world cannot afford to be unaware of international commitments. She must comprehend the headlines and understand the institutions that are the basis of change in our society."

The teacher who made this statement is new to the Avila campus. She reinforces the policy of the college in planning the curriculum. A graduate of Avila College before she entered the order of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Sister Avila completed doctoral studies in history at St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo. Until last June, she was a member of the Fontbonne College faculty, St. Louis.

Last summer she received a Fulbright grant for study in India. Course work at the University of Mysore, Mysore, India, and extensive travel were included in the grant opportunities. In her travel throughout India, Sister gained sympathy for the impoverished masses of Indians and an understanding of the abilities and weaknesses of the government. "Many Indian administrators are great theorists who can make great plans, but they sometimes lack the practical ability to put these plans into effect." This weakness keeps India from making the needed strides in industrial and agricultural development, Sister observes.

As a result of her summer trip to the non-Western countries of India, China, and Japan, Sister Avila is more firmly convinced that the inclusion of non-Western history courses in the college curriculum is important. "The student must have a grasp of the cultural differences that distinguish the non-Western peoples from the peoples of the West," she explains. Without such an understanding, a citizen cannot make proper judgments on actions taken by the government, she says. She hopes that selected non-Western areas, such as China and India, will be added in the immediate future.

Sister is teaching a course in Russian history, basic studies in American history, and methods of teaching history in secondary schools. Two other teachers share the history faculty roster with her. Sister Rose Christine, working on her doctorate at Kansas University, teaches the World Civilization courses. The Very Rev. Msgr. Jac Bruning who has been a member of the Avila faculty since 1963 teaches European history. Msgr. Bruning is a native of Holland who received his doctorate at the Pontifical Athenaeum "de Propaganda Fide," Rome, Italy, where he lived for 28 years. The professor also lived in Jordan, Israel, before coming to the United States in 1962.

"Hansel and Gretel" To Delight Children's Theater Audiences

For the 18th year, Avila College will present a Children's Theater production to delight area youngsters. The characters of "Hansel and Gretel" will come to life on an arena stage in O'Reilly Hall on Nov. 13, 14, 20 and 21.

Sister Mary Felice is directing the production adapted from the folk tale. The author of the play, Madge Miller, has added the characters of Trudi, the cat, and Jack-in-the-Box, to aid the lost children outwit the evil witch.

Audiences for the Children's Theater productions have grown to several thousand. This year, eight performances have been scheduled to accommodate as many children as possible. Performances will be given at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on each of the four days. All seats will be reserved with tickets available through the Avila College Players.

Miss Eileen Murphy, above, opened the season's art displays in Marion Center with an exhibit of her hand-woven fabrics. The fabrics, many of them woven into items of women's apparel, were exhibited during October. George Croskey, Kansas City artist, will exhibit his oil paintings during November. A display of faculty art will be held during December.

Sister Olive Louise, Avila president, appears above with Mr. and Mrs. Miller Nichols. The statue of Ruth shown here is a gift of the Nichols to the Plaza area. It stands opposite the entrance to the new Hall's on the Plaza.

Ecumenism Is Theme for NFCCS Regional Congress at Avila

Seven area colleges attended a regional meeting of the National Federation of Catholic College Students at Avila College, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 22 and 23. The theme of the congress was Ecumenism. The program opened at 4:00 p.m., Friday, with Miss Edith Messina, Avila College student government president, and Miss Karen Dullea, president of the central midwest region and a student at Sacred Heart College, Wichita, Kansas, participating as speakers.

The Rt. Rev. Edward Welles, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Western Missouri, spoke on "The Anglican Approach to Ecumenism," at the Saturday evening dinner.

At the Friday meeting Dean Tollefson, associate director of the Kansas City Regional Council for Higher Education, discussed "Contemporary Education." Two seminars, one on poverty programs and one on birth control, were included on the program.

Approximately 150 students from the following colleges participated in the meeting: St. Mary's College, Xavier, Kans.; Mt. St. Scholastica College and St. Benedict's College, both in Atchison, Kans.; Sacred Heart College, Wichita, Kans.; Fontbonne College, St. Louis, Mo.; Marymount College, Salina, Kans.; and Avila.

List Six Avila Graduates As Outstanding Women

Six graduates of Avila College are included in the 1965 edition of *Outstanding Young Women of America*. For the recognition, the women must meet a requirement of age and distinguish themselves in one or more fields of civic or professional endeavor.

Miss Anita Hernandez '60, of Kansas City, Kansas, is serving a second term with the Papal Volunteers for Latin America as a teacher in Lima, Peru.

Mrs. Joseph C. Jordon (Rosetta Pedicini '52) holds a master of arts degree in mathematics from the University of Missouri and has taught at that university, at the University of Kansas, Avila College, and the University of Kansas City. She is presently a member of the Avila College faculty.

Dr. Clara LaSala '58 is a resident in pediatrics at the University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, Calif. A graduate of Creighton University School of Medicine, she received an honorary citation from the American Women's Medical Association and was elected to membership in Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honorary Society.

Miss Mary Edith Lillis '53 is director of special recreation programs for the city of Kansas City, Mo., and is doing graduate work in the field of Public Administration at the University of Missouri. In addition to her work, Miss Lillis is a member of the woman's national champion scuba team.

Following her graduation from Avila College in 1960, Miss Nancy Schmitz studied at Laval University, Quebec, Canada, as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow and in Paris, France, as a Fulbright Fellow. She is presently teaching at the College des Ursulines, Quebec, and completing requirements for a doctorate in French.

Mrs. Robert V. Vincent (Juliet Randall '57), Birmingham, Mich., received a Master of Fine Arts degree from Catholic University prior to receiving credits as an actress. She has appeared on Broadway, in Phoenix Theater productions, and has taken part in the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

New Officers Begin Reign For Alumnae Association

Officers were elected and alumnae and former faculty members were honored at the annual alumnae homecoming of graduates of Avila College held Sunday, Oct. 3, on the Avila campus.

Chosen to head the national alumnae association were the following women: Mrs. James Kring, Wallingford, Conn., president; Mrs. Francis Schwab, San Francisco, Calif., first vice president; Miss Lenore Stomp, Kansas City, Mo., second vice president; and Mrs. E. J. Connelly, Franklin, Mich., secretary-treasurer.

President of the Kansas City chapter for 1965-67 is Miss Helen Drees. Other chapter officers include Miss Bernadine Loftus, first vice president; Mrs. Robert I. Wald, second vice president; and Mrs. George J. Noll, secretary-treasurer.

Receiving the Avila Medal were Mrs. Maurice O'Sullivan and Mrs. F. Barclay Jordon. The medals were presented by Sister Olive Louise, president of Avila, who also recognized three former faculty members who were special guests at the homecoming. They were Sister Henrietta Eileen Heiner, C.S.J., former dean; Sister Alphonsa Carpenter, C.S.J., a former member of the English faculty; and Sister Mary Victorine Klein, C.S.J., formerly of the music faculty. The two former teachers are now members of the faculty at Fontbonne College, St. Louis, Mo. Sister Victorine is at the St. Joseph Provincialate in St. Louis.

Mrs. Joseph C. Jordon — Dr. Clara LaSalla

AVILA *The College for Women*

The newly elected president of the national Avila Alumnae Association, Mrs James B. Kring, is pictured above. Mrs Kring, the former Louise McNellis of Kansas City, resides with her husband and five children in Wallingford, Conn She holds a Master of Science in Education degree and has taught in the elementary grades.

Alumnae News

GIRLS TO
Carmelita Bergup Bombeck '59 (Audrey Anne, Sept 19), Sue Turgeon Van Thullenar '56 (Ann, July 27).

BOYS TO
Judith Pierce Hall '62 (Randall, July 29); Mary Jo McLarney Hallett '61 (Scott, May 28), Joyce Hood Hauber '62 (Matthew), Cherie Watts Dougherty '65 (David James, Aug 6), Gail deJean Lavis '57 (Charles, Jr., June 29).

MARRIAGES
Mary Agnes Castrop '64 to William Morrow; Mary Ann Dunn '64 to Michael Crawford; Jacqueline Elmer '65 to Jacque Lewis; Suzanne Flanner '65 to Thomas J Fisch, Michaela Sheehy '64 to Larry Glennemeier; Beverly Wilcox '60 to Joe B Wallace.

ALUMNAE NOTES
Margaret Hernandez '62 is attending the School of Social Service at St. Louis University doing class and field work preparatory to serving as a school social worker
Betty Rinehart Riccardi '58 has been appointed director of St. Mary's Hospital School of Practical Nursing

A Message from the President

Dear Members of Avila Alumnae Association,

It is with great pleasure and sincere humility that I serve as your national president for the year 1965-1966. It is through the united effort of each of us that Avila College will continue to grow in the remarkable manner it has in the past years. Though our personal efforts may seem small, the success of the Alumnae Association does depend on its *individual* members

Those who have had contact with any colleges or universities in any part of the United States know that Avila can hold her head high in the educational system. The courses offered at Avila not only supply our young women with factual knowledge so necessary to succeeding in their chosen professions, but more important, Avila supplies the reasons and methods for seeking our Eternal Goal through these selected ways of life.

The beautiful campus and buildings at Avila are a tribute to those who have labored so earnestly to see a dream come true The Sisters, Alumnae, and Avila's many friends and students continue to receive our prayers of thanks for the high standards maintained at Avila College in moral, scholastic and physical excellence.

A unity among Alumnae members of each and all classes, a close relationship between members and Avila College, physical and financial support of Alumnae endeavors—*all* are essential to the success of our young alumnae association.

Because we are so grateful for the gift we were given—the opportunity of attending Avila—let us not forget to show this gratitude this year 1965-1966. The need is great! Let us not delay our pledge of support Join local alumnae groups, renew acquaintances with former teachers and classmates, "talk" Avila, and support your college financially with even small contributions

We, the Alumnae Association, love Avila! Let's show it!

Sincerely,

Louise McNellis Kring

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